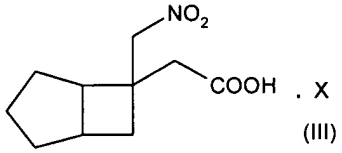
CLAIMS

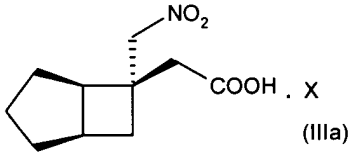
1. A compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein X is a basic counterion selected from a group I or group II metal and a primary, secondary or tertiary amine.

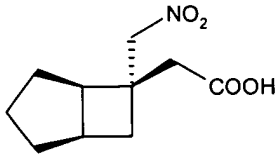
2. A compound according to Claim 1, which is of formula (IIIa):



(IIIa)

3. A compound according to Claim 2 wherein X is selected from sodium, cinchonidine, cyclohexylammonium, R-alpha-methylbenzylammonium, S-alpha-methylbenzylammonium and S-2-cyclohexylethylammonium.

4. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (IIIa) by addition of the base to a compound of formula (VIIa) in a suitable solvent:



(VIIa)

5. A process for the preparation of (1*R*,5*R*,6*S*)-[6-(aminomethyl)bicyclo[3.2.0]hept-6-yl]acetic acid, comprising a) conversion of a compound according to claim 2 to the corresponding free nitro acid, followed by b) reduction of the nitro group.